A8912-1

SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 9, 1984

Contact: David L. Yowell
or Sally Shank
(918) 493-3516

MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of October, 1984)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during October decreaeed by twenty-seven from the September total. The land crew total decreased by twenty-three crews and the marine crew total decreased by four, for a net decrease of twenty-seven. A significant number of crews had contracts but could not work due to abnormally heavy rains in some areas and snow in others.

The October total (497) represents a decrease of 5% from last month, a less than 1% decrease over October, 1983, a 3% decrease from October, 1982, a 33% decrease from October, 1981, a 13% decrease from October, 1980, a 14% increase over October, 1979, and a gain of 35% over the same month in 1978.

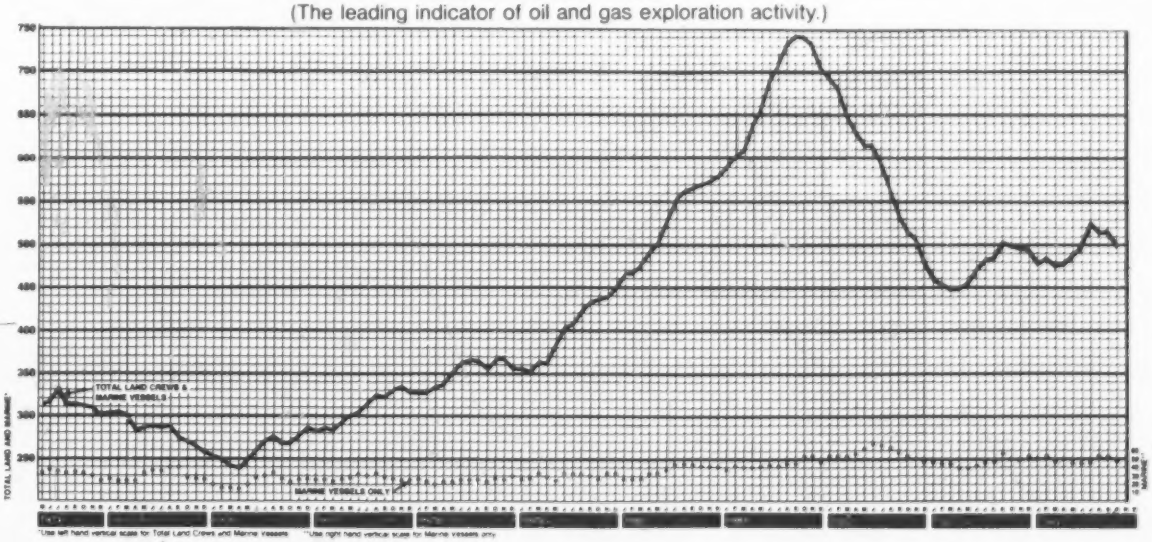
During October, eleven contractors were operating twenty-two of the 412 land crews and four of the forty-two vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 497	Last Month 524	Oct. 83 498	Oct. 82 516	Oct. 81 741	Oct. '80 571	Oct. 79 436	Oct. 78 371

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1982	Oct. 1981	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979	Oct. 1978	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1982	Oct. 1981	Oct. 1980	Oct. 1979	Oct. 1978
78 Contr's:	412	435	410	423	646	490	368	305	42	44	42	42	44	33	24	23
9 Oil Co's:	37	37	38	42	43	40	39	37	6	7	7	8	7	7	4	4
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Totals:	449	472	448	465	689	530	407	342	48	52	50	51	52	41	29	29

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine vessels only.

*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

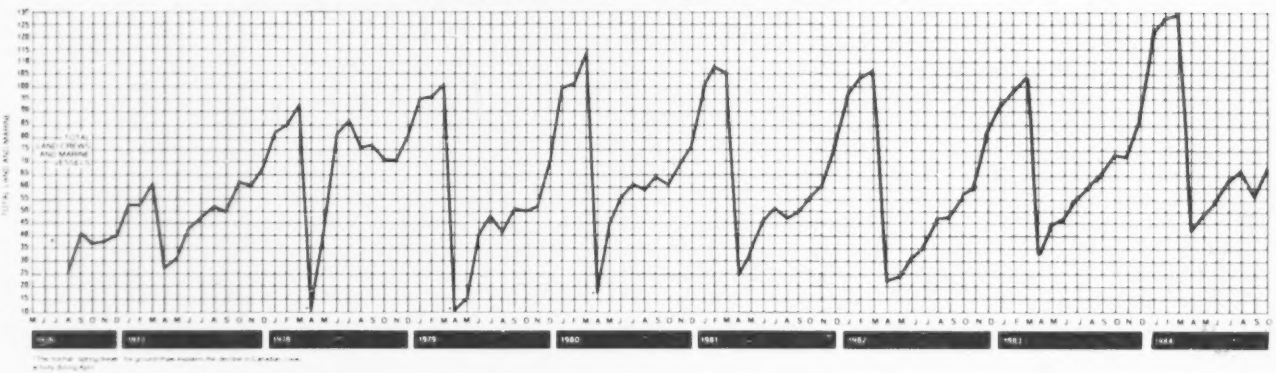
SEG Headquarters Office: Box 702740, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74170-2740, Tel. (918) 493-3516

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

October, 1984 (September figures in parentheses)

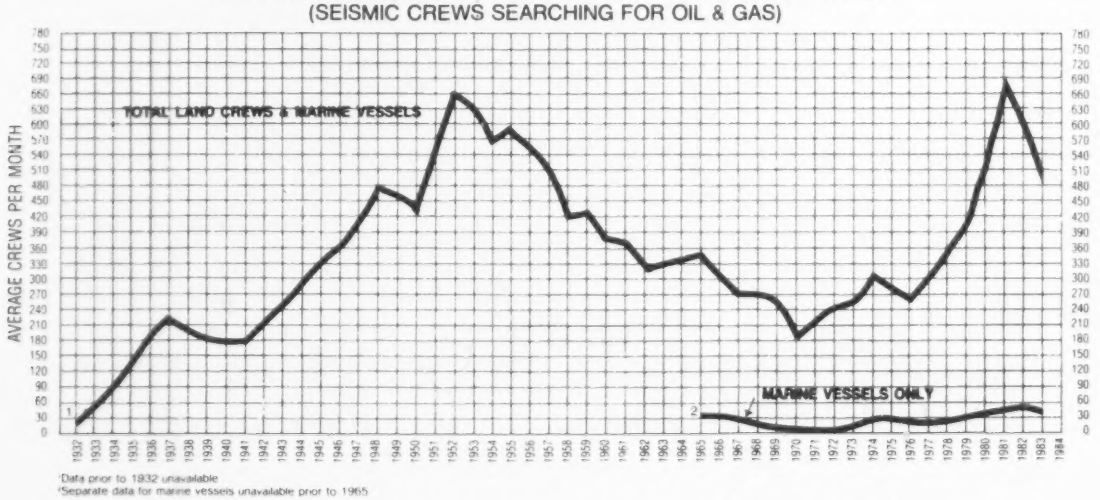
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
27 Contractors:	58 (43)	8 (10)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	61 (46)	8 (10)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965

DAVID L. YOWELL
Assistant Executive Director